

Applicant(s): NICHOLAS ZARKADES  
Serial No.: 10/750,172  
Filed: December 31, 2003

Z20-001

In the Claims

Please replace claim 14 as follows:

14. A railroad crossing gate [[comprising ]]for blocking a highway comprising:

- A) a base unit mounted in the ground adjacent the highway and having a source of electrical power, a rotatable arm and an electrically operated motor for rotating said arm between an open position and a blocking position, and
- B) a gate including:
  - i) a hollow member having a first end affixed to said rotatable arm whereby said hollow member rotates between the open and blocking positions with said arm,
  - ii) an extendible member slidably mounted in the first hollow member to be slidable from an inner position to an outer position relative to said hollow member along an extension axis with minimal sliding friction, and
  - iii) a stop that defines the outer position of said extendible member whereby in the open position said extendible member nests in said hollow member and in the blocking position the extension axis slopes downwardly from the base

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unit thereby causing said extendible member to extend from said hollow member at least almost entirely by the force of gravity to the outer position thereby to block [[a ]]traffic on the highway from the railroad crossing.